

USSN: 09/691,352

Docket No.: 55126US002

A6 amended
bismaleimides, hot melts of polyester, polyamides, polyolefins, derivatized polyolefins or combinations thereof.

A7
Please add new claim 35:

35. (New) The product of claim 1, wherein said granules are bonded to said film by a layer of said cured adhesive.

A version marked to show changes made to the claims relative to the previous version of the claims is attached.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in the light of the amendments and the following discussion is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to correct a number of typographical errors. Claims 6, 9, 13, and 18 have been amended without narrowing the scope of the claims. New claim 35 has been added. A marked-up version of the changes made is attached hereto. Claims 1-19, 26-31 and 35 remain pending in this application.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction under 35 USC §121 between Group I, claims 1-19 and 26-31, drawn to an integrated granule product; and Group II, claims 21-25 and 32-34, drawn to a method of making an integrated granule product. The Examiner notes that inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made, concluding that the process as claimed can be used to make a materially different product such as a retro-reflective article.

During a telephone conference between the Examiner and Applicant's attorney, Brian Szymanski, on January 30, 2002, a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-19 and 26-31. Applicant hereby affirms, without traverse, the provisional election to prosecute the invention of claims 1-19 and 26-31 directed to the integrated granular product. Thus, claims 1-19, 26-31 and 35 remain in the application for reconsideration, and claims 21-25 and 32-34 have been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner as being drawn to non-elected inventions. It is presumed that claim 20, also drawn to a method of making an integrated granule product but not specifically mentioned in